



WaterlowPark

owpark.org.uk

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*The Voice of Park Users*

Waterlow Park was opened in 1891, formed from the estate created by Sir Sydney Waterlow and given by him to the London County Council to provide a 'garden for the gardenless'.

Find out more about the history of the Park from the signboards at the gates. The photos overleaf are described below.

1. **Lauderdale House** was built around 1580. It is said that **Nell Gwynne** stayed here and **Charles II** came calling. On 28 July 1666 **Samuel Pepys** records a visit to **Lord Lauderdale**. It is now a cultural and community centre and cafe.
2. The delightful statues of a shepherdess and her partner are attributed to 18<sup>th</sup> century sculptor **John van Nost**.
3. These **terraced gardens** were first planted in the 1580s and were quite a tourist attraction at the time. The **fountain** is made of Woodkirk sandstone and was funded by a Heritage Lottery award.
4. Glorious flowers fill the border by the **eagle steps**. The Park has always been renowned for its bedding.
5. Hidden away below the park centre you can find the **community kitchen garden** with its 10 raised vegetable beds maintained by local groups, and next to it the **community orchard** of apple, pear and other fruit trees.
6. This **hollow oak** may be more than 300 years old. Perhaps Charles II or Pepys passed by in its younger days.
7. 'Benignly controlled' verges round the **middle pond** make it good for ducks, coots, moorhens and other wildlife.
8. The 'new' **playground** for older children has proved very popular.
9. **Swain's Lane Lodge** is a characterful early 19<sup>th</sup> century 'gothick'-style building. It was at the entrance to the carriage drive, which can still be discerned from the avenue of limes up the hill to the left.
10. The **lion gates** may date from the same time as the Lodge and provided a grand entry to the drive, leading to **Fairseat** [now Channing Junior School].
11. The **lime avenue** leads you up past a hexagonal shelter built on the site of a Victorian original and the tarmac area where a bandstand once stood. The **rose circle** beyond has been replanted with roses donated by Park supporters.
12. Please tread softly around the **upper pond** which is a nature reserve and a haven for wildlife in this busy park. And please shut the gate!
13. **Tennis courts** have been in the Park since it was opened. Nearby there is said to be a wartime underground shelter for local residents.
14. Now relax on a bench and enjoy the **spectacular view** over London and the City where Sir Sydney ran his printing business. He was Lord Mayor of London from 1872 to 1873.

*If you have enjoyed the Park, please consider joining the Friends of Waterlow Park.*

*friends of*  
**Waterlow Park**



#LoveW

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